Believe it or Not, There's

By Doug Hay

FUN in a PHONEBOOK

H. J. AAFTINK and E. ZWOLAK are "human book-ends." They are two of the 50,000-odd subscribers listed in the Greater Victoria telephone directory.

Mr. Aaftink of 2054 Meadow Place leads off the book at the first-listed private subscriber; Mr. Zwolak of 1502 Davie Street brings up the rear, 102 pages later.

Crammed in between these pages are 408 columns, with more than 118 listings in each.

Although Victoria cannot boast a directory the size of neighboring Vancouver's (943 white and classified pages), our telephone book makes interesting reading, nonetheless.

The 50,000 subscribers here live on avenues called Aloha and Christmas; a street called Nancy Hanks (named for Abe Lincoln's mother); a Mystic Lane; a dell called Dingley; a Cemetry Road; a drive called El Sereno.

They shop at business establishments called A & A Chimney Service (first commercial listing in the white pages) and the Zero Soap Manufacturing Company (last commercial listing). When subscribers look in the yellow (classified) pages, they can find the Brazilian Yerbama Company (herbalists); a shop in Esquimalt called Abounding Bargains—and when the children get underfoot, one can always call the Child Care-Orium on Cadillac Avenue.

There are four business firms pre-fixed by the word Alberta—one (insurance) by Saskatchewan. Manitoba is a dead loss in our book; so are the other provinces, although New England gets the nod. It's the name of a hotel on Government Street.

When you go shopping to "keep up with the Jones" you better know what you're up against—there are 202 of them in the directory. But the Smiths have them beaten a country mile—they number 504.

Friends of Arne Bo have no difficulty in finding him. His is the shortest name in the book. Frank Bos runs a pretty close second.

There are eight Bacons; two Hamms, and one Egg. And 48 Cooks to dish them up.

There are two short Beers (Beer), and three long ones (Beere). There's a Skittles, also.

We have no Diefenbakers—but there are four Churchills.

STRANGE BEDFELLOWS

There are subscribers with the uncommon names of:

Big Canoe, Wee Seto, Bastion Slagboom, Egbert Baarspul, Vernon Bonk, R. Clunk—and O.K. Joe!

The Old Country touch is illustrated by 64 hyphenated names. Most appropriate of these is Thorpe-Doubble. Included in this list might be Pepsi-Colo and Coca-Cola, making 66.

There are double listings for the following, but with different addresses for each:

Mrs. E. Every Clayton, Miss Margaret E. Dickson, Mrs. Phyllis M. Shepherd, J. Kent-Fawkes and J. Doe.

IF ONE WANTED to team up Victorians with appropriate names, you have these choices:

Despot and Liberatore; Hill and Dale; Crystal and Clear; Sing and Dance; Coffin and Bury; Large and Small; Sweet and Lovely; Kitchen and Range; Fields and Meadows; Gamble and Winn; Laundry and Tubb; Meek and Humble; Judge and Jury; Lock and Key; Roome and Board; Trip and Fall; Snow and Hale; Gay and Blades; Valiant and Craven; Wight and Wong (sorry for the pun); Darling and Dear; Dill and Pickles; Candy and Storr; Button and Hook; Fickel and Faithful; Child and Parent; Gee and Heck; Stutter, Mutter and Yells—and Ready, Willing and Abel.

The combinations are endless.

We have an England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales. As well as a Brazil, France, Finland and Holland.

There is a King, Lord, Duke, Knight, Prince and Squire.

A Ford, Dodge, Cadillac, Kaiser, Packard, Nash, Buick, Hudson, Austin and Morris.

We have a Venus, Mars—and Moon.

The Hollywood touch includes Shirley Temple, Gene Tierney, Dick Powell, James Stewart, Wheeler and Woolsey, Fred Allen and Steve Allen.

For the monetary-minded there is a Farthing, Schilling, Penny, Nickle—and Money.

ANGLERS WOULD HAVE a field day with these names:

Salmon, Codd, Trout, Dolphin, Bass, Sturgeon and Pike.

There is a Pope, Bishop, Deacon, Parson, Monk and Nunn.

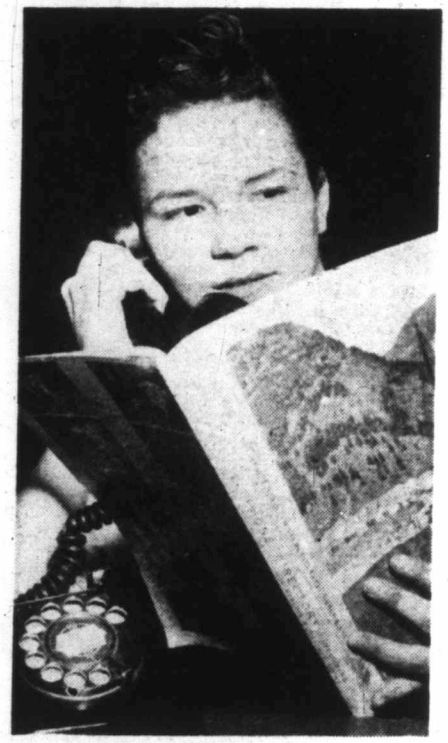
Our feathered friends are well represented, too:

Sparrowhawk, Quail, Eagle, Crow, Sparrow, Robin, Hawke, Jay, Raven, Rook, Heron, Swallow, Mallard, Wren, Peacock, Parrott, Partridge, Duck, Drake, Gosling, Pidgeon, Goldfinch and Nightingale Swan.

We are reminded of U.S. presidential history with Woodrow Wilson, Lincoln, John Adams (second president) and Washington.

Names of trees include:

Hawthorne, Pine, Crabtree, Lemon, Peach, Plumb, Chestnut, Beech, Maple, Cedar, Oak, Birch and Holly.



Miss Lorna Leyland was sceptical . . . but a glance at the telephone directory convinced her of the oddities in its names.

Among occupations listed are:

Shepherd, Purser, Carpenter, Potter, Butler, Fiddler, Porter, Plover, Sawyer, Brewer, Dyer, Cook, Draper, Constable, Cooper, Mason, Fisher, Collier, Drover, Barber, Miller, Hatter and Butcher.

Victoria might once have been the home of "Col. Blimp" (still is, to hear Vancouverites tell it) but those days seem gone forever. Sad to say, there are only 32 colonels left—and 45 lieutenant-colonels.

Military listings range from generals (3) to a lone sub-lieutenant.

Military subscribers (retired and active) total 598.

These include (in numerical seniority) army and navy captains (174); lieutenant-commanders (107); army and navy lieutenants (91); majors (84); commanders (41); squadron-leaders (four); naval commodores (three); group captains two); air commodores (one); air vice-marshals (one) and flight-lieutenants (one).

ALAS, VICTORIA can boast no members of the peerage—at least, none who have a listed telephone number.

But we do have three knights and two ladies. There are two "madames."

We have nearly four times as many ministers of the gospel (124) as churches (37), so we are truly blessed.

There are at least nine "honorable" men amongst us—and one "hon." lady.

There are 140 subscribers who prefer the suffix "junior" attached to their surnames—and 61 who are "senior."

Wives, whose husbands may feel that they are on the telephone more than the family breadwinner and, therefore, rate a listing; widows and other married women number 5,104 in the directory.

There are 1,761 spinsters.

But don't worry, girls—there are at least that many bachelors. They remain in relative obscurity, however, as far as the telephone book is concerned.

The yellow pages would indicate that Victorians are a comparatively cosmopolitan lot.

If our communal teeth ache, there are 67 dentists, with tools poised in readiness to alleviate our suffering.

But they're in the minority when stacked against the medical fraternity—Victoria has 159 physicians.

And, if all efforts fail, we have a choice of six funeral homes—and three cemeteries.

While there are only two "hair removers" (electrolysis), there are, on the other hand, 12 barbers with telephones.

For religious guidance, we run the gamut from the "I Am Study Group" to the "Punjabi Akali Singh Temple."

OUR DIPLOMATIC representation leaves a bit to be desired—we have only one vice-consul, W. Glen Holland, who appropriately enough, represents the Netherlands.

Thirty-seven accountants stand ready to check your business records—27 banks swing open their doors to look after your money.

And, if you run short of the "ready," 16 loan companies are on hand to assist.

For recreation, we have one listing for a cabaret (in Oak Bay, strangely enough); eight for movie theatres; two billiard parlors (pool halls to the initiate); four public golf courses; 12 fraternal organizations and 16 clubs (ranging from the British Empire Club on View to the Chinese Dart Coon Club on Fisgard).

If you've been out panning gold recently, you'll find a gold buyer on Douglas Street to take care of your "poke."

If you're tired of the view in your neighborhood but happy with your home, there's a house-mover on Shelbourne Street who will shift you to a new location.

And, if like the writer of this article, you ran out of reading material and started in on the telephone directory, you'll need the services of the following:

Optometrists.

Of which there are 15.

THIS WEEK'S ANAGRAM

How is your vocabulary? There is no better or more fascinating way to improve it than by solving these anagrams each week. Add the letters in the first column to the letters in the second column, and rearrange the letters so as to form a new word. EXAMPLE: FEND plus SEE equals? Answer: DEFENSE. Can you solve the following anagrams?

(1)	FIRS	PLUS	SUE	EQUALS	???
(2)	CURL	"	SEA	"	"
(3)	TORE	"	MOP	"	"
(4)	BANE	"	LOT	"	"
(5)	CANE	"	ASK	"	"

Solution to these anagrams are printed on Page 10.